

Joe "Jose" Sustacha Jr.
1919-2008



Joe (Jose) Sustacha Jr., life long Lamoille resident, passed away Friday, June 20 at his home on the family ranch.

Born March 17, 1919, to Basque immigrant parents Jose and Francisca Sustacha, he was the second of their three children.

He attended schools in Lamoille and Elko.

He was married Dec. 21, 1945, to Lucile Wenthe, who had come to Nevada to teach at the Lamoille school.

They had four children; Joe III, John, James and Janice. Following their divorce in 1978, Joe spent several years with companion Eva Nicholson, who died

in 2005.

Joe was a talented horseman. He loved training and showing stock horses. His many wins included the Grand National at the San Francisco Cow Palace, the Pacific International in Portland, the Reno Rodeo and multiple classes at the Elko County Fair.

After he stopped showing horses, Joe enjoyed team roping with his sons and friends.

In later years, when he could no longer ride, he still liked to watch from his pickup whenever cows were worked on the ranch. A demanding horsemanship teacher, he gave generously of his time to help others develop their skills, and gave horses to several neighbors' children for both English and Western classes.

Joe's livelihood was his ranch in beautiful Lamoille Valley, where he bred and raised quality purebred and commercial Herefords.

A strong supporter of the FFA, he was awarded Honorary Farmer degrees at both chapter and state levels.

Dad's final years were blessed by the presence of his nurse and angel on earth, Lynette Nash, to whom the family expresses their most profound and heartfelt gratitude. Dad also enjoyed and very much appreciated the friends and neighbors who stopped at the ranch to visit when he was no longer able to get out.

Thanks also to Jan Boyer and the other nurses at Nevada Home Health for their care.

He was preceded in death by his sister Fermina, brother Jess and eldest son Joe III.

He is survived by ex-wife Lucile, sons John and James, daughter Janice, five grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Services will be at 10 a.m. Thursday, June 26, 2008, at Saint Joseph Catholic Church.

In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to the Nevada FFA Foundation, 700 E Fifth Street, Carson City, Nevada 89701.